

**Virginia Commission for the Arts  
Minutes  
December 5, 2005  
Artspace, Richmond**

Members Present: Dr. Lucius Ellsworth, Chair; David Briggs, Gary Grant, Susan Hirshbiel, Bonita Lestina, Roddy Moore, Jackie Stone, Rod Taylor, Beth Temple, and Deborah Valentine

Members Absent: E. A. McMath, Will Trinkle, and Eve Wilson

Staff Attending: Peggy Baggett, Tatjana Franke Beylotte, Foster Billingsley, and Amy Krawczyk

Guests: Dana Frostik, Artspace; Kitty Johnson, Artspace; Marlene Paul, ART 180; and Erin Hinckley, VSA Arts of Virginia

**Introduction**

Dr. Ellsworth, Chair of the Commission, called the meeting to order at 11:19 a.m. He introduced Kitty Johnson, Past President of Artspace, who welcomed the Commissioners to the gallery and gave a brief history of the move to Plant Zero. Dr. Ellsworth then introduced Dana Frostick, Administrator of Artspace, and thanked her for hosting the meeting.

David Briggs proposed amended language for the section of the October 28<sup>th</sup> minutes pertaining to local arts agencies. Lu Ellsworth made a motion to accept the proposed changes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Bonita Lestina then made a motion to approve the minutes of October 28, 2005, as amended. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Advocacy**

Lu Ellsworth reported on advocacy actions since the previous meeting, including the Virginians for the Arts guest editorial campaign for all daily newspapers in the state and the meeting with the staff of the transition office for Governor-Elect Kaine. He also reported on the recent conference on Virginia's Future.

All Commission members were encouraged to speak at the upcoming public hearings on the state budget and to contact their representatives in the General Assembly about funding for the arts in the 2006-2008 state budget.

**Arts Education Committee Report**

Beth Temple gave a report on the meeting of the Arts in Education Committee that had taken place in the morning before the full Commission convened

The Arts in Education Committee approved 260 Teacher Incentive Grants for a total of \$74,585. The Committee also approved applications from Heather Maxwell and Fode Lamina Sylla to be listed on the AIE Artist Roster.

The Committee made several recommendations about the Teacher Incentive Grants, including clarification of the application instructions to emphasize the arts and better promotion of the grants statewide.

### **Discussion of Public Value**

Following a tour of Plant Zero, Dr. Ellsworth proposed that at the board meetings over the next year the Commission have a series of in-depth discussions about different aspects of the arts. These discussions will provide background for the development of the next strategic plan for the Commission.

The Commissioners had a general discussion of how the Commission defines the public value of its work.

In March the Commission will discuss the roles of major arts institutions and performing arts presenters.

### **2006-2008 Guidelines for Funding**

Dr. Ellsworth noted that the draft guidelines for funding had been available for public comment since the October meeting. One response, in addition to the comments made by the public over the summer, had been received. Some suggestions were made for wording changes in the draft guidelines for funding.

Deborah Valentine made a motion to adopt the guidelines, including the wording changes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.